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**Mobilizing the Seventy-seventh Division for Peace.**

The Seventy-seventh Division, made up of men from this city and anxiously awaiting orders to return from France, where it has distinguished itself in hard fighting, is preparing for demobilization with intelligence and foresight.

Every man in the outfit has been called on to fill out a questionnaire, disclosing his prospects in civil life. If he can step out of the army into a job, he is to record that fact. If when he turns in his rifle he is going to need a job, he is to let his qualifications be known.

Three things have been disclosed by the questionnaires already filled out and returned to headquarters.

One is that jobs are waiting for a large number of the men of the Seventy-seventh Division.

Another is that there are many men in the division who will have jobs to give to others when they quit the service.

The third is that the officers and men of the Seventy-seventh Division are anxious to stick together in peace as they have in war and perpetuate as civilians the bonds that have bound them together in the face of the enemy.

Plainly, the men of the Seventy-seventh Division are not going to need a great deal of help from the Federal Government or the State Government or the city or from philanthropic individuals when they get home. They are going to take care of themselves.

Are these men peculiar in this matter among the two millions of Americans who have been working and fighting in France?

We doubt it.

There are men in the expeditionary forces who will be jobless when they come home. There are unquestionably some—mighty few—who will need aid in getting settled. But the greater number of the men who were sent to France were upstanding, self-reliant citizens when they put uniforms on, and they have not deteriorated in the army.

These men will, to a great extent, look out for themselves, and for each other. Some of them may feel they are entitled to play for a while; others will require a little time to readjust themselves; but the vast majority will accomplish their readjustment in civil occupations without causing trouble or confusion to themselves or to anybody else.

**War Savings Certificates.**

War Savings Certificates are not transferable, and will be redeemed for their owners in cash at any post office on ten days notice. The Government has advertised these facts extensively, but in spite of this, many persons have sold their certificates to speculators at a loss, and apparently some postmasters have been redeeming these transferred cards regardless of the prohibition of this practice.

Naturally, speculators who buy War Savings Certificates pay less for them than the Government will pay. If they did not, there would be no profit in the transaction, and the gentry who engage in such enterprises are not philanthropists—they work for their own pockets all the time.

These gaudies of finance are blood kin to the rascals who swap worthless stock for good Government bonds. They prey on the innocence of unsophisticated holders of Government securities, deceiving men and women who are unaccustomed to dealing in securities. Their dishonesty is equalled only by their impudence. They quote Governors and other men in public life as endorsing them and their proposals, when these officials as a matter of fact never heard of the soundbells.

The patriotic owners of Government securities should fix firmly in their minds two things. It is their duty to hold the Liberty bonds and the War Savings Certificates they own as long as they can. They owe this duty to themselves as much as to the country. By holding their securities they benefit the country and they benefit themselves. If through misfortune any of these holders is obliged to sell Liberty bonds he should

go to a bank and get its help. If he is obliged to sell War Savings Certificates, he should go to the post office, and get all they are worth.

With regard to War Savings Certificates, the Government has now ordered postmasters to take more care in redeeming them, and this ought to restrict the abuse that has grown up in trading in them. It is high time this was done, for a great many persons have been swindled out of their savings through official laxness in this important matter.

**Post and Wire Races.**

All excellence is comparative; why, then, continues the public walling and gnashing of teeth over Postmaster-General Britton's mail service? As a matter of fact, by the test of comparative merit, his post office business is making strides toward betterment, if not perfection.

It is true that whereas it was once possible to mail a letter in Chicago and have it delivered in New York in about twenty-four hours, one may be mailed now below Fourteenth street and not be delivered in Harlem in three days. It is history also that the letter which once upon a time went from the Atlantic coast to the Pacific coast in the days now required to go from Fourteenth street to 125th street may now get through its transcontinental journey, including delivery, in several weeks.

Nevertheless, the infallible test of relative speed begins to prove Postmaster-General Britton's progress with the mail service. For it is now coming to pass that business men receive a letter ahead of a telegram, both despatched at the same time. A letter confirming a wire message and arriving before the telegram is some letter, as nobody can deny. As yet this beating of the hamstrung wire service by the spavined mail service is manifested only occasionally. Under Britton, however, there is still an effort at rivalry, the telegram winning the race one time, the letter another.

But may not the Postmaster-General hope that soon, with his art of supreme vindication by incomparable contrast, we shall have every letter, whatever the distance, beating every telegram, day in and day out, to the confusion of Postmaster-General Britton's wire service but to the triumph of Postmaster-General Britton's mail service?

**Canada's Trade With the United States in Peace.**

The Great Canadian Northwest in general asks for closer trade relations with the United States. In particular the Saskatchewan Assembly seeks a revision of tariffs to facilitate the flow of commerce across our northern boundary line. This is a matter which takes rank with the results of the Peace Conference; for in the whole international field there is nothing of greater importance to the American people than their trade relations with Canada.

For a generation we have had dazzling visions of fabulous trafficking with South America and with all the Latin American countries, with the Orient, with Germany, with the rest of the Old World. In that period of dreaming of what might be somewhere here or somewhere there, nothing has surpassed the realities of what has actually happened to our advantage right next door in Canada. Nothing in the next generation will equal the still more marvellous results that are as sure to come to us as the rising of the sun to-morrow morning.

Only eight years ago our exports to Canada were about \$200,000,000 a year. In 1911 they had risen to some \$275,000,000. The next year they had gone up to more than \$350,000,000. In 1913, the year before Canada entered the war, they had passed \$435,000,000. Let us ignore the later figures of war business. Our exports to Canada in 1917, for example, exceeded \$601,000,000. But looking into the future, we can consider only peace trade, normal trade; and it is in those shining records written before Canada entered the war that we see our neighbor before many years our greatest customer on the whole wide face of the globe.

In its expanding trade with us before the war, Canada, indeed, had shot well past Germany. The German Empire, which long had led all our other customers, with the single exception of the United Kingdom, bought no more from us in the year immediately preceding the war—the ending June 30, 1914—than \$344,794,276. In those German purchases from us were included, as we all came to understand later, tens and tens of millions of material for war, secretly bought and quietly transported, while the German military machine prepared to make a battlefield of all Europe. In the previous year, ending with June 30, 1913, when also Germany was gathering in war supplies, our exports to the Kaiser's empire were lower than \$332,000,000. But meanwhile, as we have shown, Canada had outstripped Germany by a full \$100,000,000 a year.

When we consider that the population of Canada is not so large as the single State of New York, we discern possibilities which stagger the imagination. From time immemorial the United Kingdom as a foreign customer has been more to us by far than all the rest of Europe. With its dependencies and colonies, the United Kingdom has bought more from us than all the rest of the world put together. But when we think of Canada's record, with a bare eight millions of population, we behold an early future where Canada will be buying more from the United States than the United Kingdom itself; will in the lives of our grandchildren, perhaps of our children, be buying

from us more than all Europe, including the United Kingdom.

Canada is destined to multiply its numbers as we have multiplied ours. Canada's population, which in a comparatively short time has grown from three millions to more than eight millions, will as quickly grow from eight millions to twenty-five millions and from twenty-five millions to seventy-five millions.

The reason that, with even a small population, Canada's trade with us has been vastly larger than the trade of all South America counting tens of millions of people, became larger than the trade of even Germany, with its seventy or eighty millions of population, is simple. The Canadians are more like us than any other people are like us. We have been accustomed to speak of the English and Americans as cousins. By force of blood, climate and other geographical influences the Canadians and the Americans are more nearly brothers. They live very much as we live. They do very much the things that we do. They want what we want. Just as we have things that they need. In those common desires, with the capacity of each to supply the need of the other, is the strongest trade magic that nations can possess and exercise.

Another heritage, moreover, has fallen to us out of the war. We must become the natural financial mart to which the Canadians will come for new capital, credit and similar support, as hitherto they have gone to London. So it is that after the war, as before the war, our immediate trade promise with Canada looms second only to that of the United Kingdom. Such change from that position as manifests itself in later years or decades will make Canada in the end no longer our second best customer, but first in the whole world.

**Text for a Democratic Jefferson Day Celebration.**

The National Democratic League of Clubs has issued a call to all Democrats to celebrate the birthday of Thomas Jefferson on April 13.

Nothing could be more wholesome than for Democrats and all other Americans to contemplate studiously the lives of the founders of the republic, and to pay to them on appropriate occasions the tributes of respect and gratitude their services to humanity merit.

Without intention to intrude on the arrangements made for the celebration of Jefferson's birthday by the National Democratic League of Clubs, we respectfully suggest that in the subjoined extract from the writings of the man on whom the Democratic party to-day looks as its founder will be found an adequate text for an address on such an occasion:

"We must make the interest of every nation stand surety for their justice, and their own laws to follow injury to us, as effect follows its cause.

"As to everything except commerce, we ought to divorce ourselves from them all."

We conceive that any Democrat of sufficient oratorical reputation to be called upon to address his fellow partisans on Jefferson's life and contributions to American policy could make a rattling good speech on the premises outlined in these sentences, and win thereby the applause of any audience of discriminating and patriotic citizens of the United States.

**What Will People Do With All the Saved Money?**

Before the war America was in the habit of taking forty or fifty billion glasses of beer and fifteen billion drinks of whiskey every year. What it cost to make this is important; what it cost to drink it, aside from the expenditure of health, time and temper, is more important.

Some channels besides the gullet of the Demon Rum are going to take in twenty-five or six billion dollars that hitherto has been spent for alcoholic drinks. In this town alone perhaps a million dollars a day will find a home elsewhere than in the cash register of the booze merchant. How are these billions—in the whole country enough to take up a big war bond issue—to be used?

The individual drinker who has had a considerable passion for the stuff usually, turns, after repentance, to food. His chemistry demands additional quantities of sugar, which he takes in the form of candy and desserts. Next July, expect raids on the sweet shops, with long queues at the soda check counters. The genius who devises a soft drink that will appease the inward yearning of the deprived will have wealth to make the dreams of Avarice appear by comparison as the nightmares of Penury.

The desire for sugar, while it does not disappear entirely, remains in the fever stage only a few weeks, or months; after that the candy stores will find their swollen receipts receding toward normal, yet not going back to the figures of the days when ten million earnest drinkers turned up their noses at caramels and called for the black bottle of Old Recluse of the tall glass of Neapropolis.

Meanwhile, the woman will be busy. Patiently she will watch the constitutionally amended wretch as he comes home under the influence of nut sundae and she will plan new uses for the money that once was left at Gus's place. When the man's debauch of candy is over and he is able to get along on one or two ice cream sodas for a nightcap, then will the golden flood of prohibition be turned to real currency.

Never was there a woman who did not need at least one thing more to make her house furnishing perfect; and the coming year will be the opportunity of many wives. The liquids of which John Smith is de-

prived will be represented by things more lasting. A set of DICKENS'S works will take the place of a hundred beers; a lamp to read 'em by will take the place of a hundred whiskeys. A photograph may be bought at the rate, in ginmill reckoning, of a gallon of ale down and a bottle of rum a week.

When the spree of buying furniture is over, probably the passion for saving will begin. It is unfortunate for the Victory loan that it will be floated a couple of months ahead of Dry Day. The annual bar expenditures of the average drinker—the fellow who never gets drunk—are \$300. Glasses would be glad to get what glasses take. But, even when the last loaf is over, there will be banks and savings and loan associations.

Isn't the man to have any part of the saved money for his selfish self? Yes, he usually takes care of that. We foresee a sharp rally in the necktie market, a demand for clothing of fashion—and a desire for longer and better vacations. Motor car manufacturers will be called on for more catalogues. The redeemed mail will expect more and better food.

These are a few of the ways in which the saved billions will be spent. The further billions that are earned by increased industry or by sharpened intelligence may amount to as much as the cash that will cease to flow into the oceans.

As for the joys of life, whose imminent passing is lamented by many worthy persons, we have the testimony of Detroit, the largest American city ever under prohibition, that every body is as lively and happy as ever. Six months from now the indignant drinker of to-day may be lifting his blanching nose out of the innocent depths of an ice cream soda glass and saying, "Thank heaven, after all, I was wrong!"

The late JOSEPH L. MCENTEE served THE SUN for a quarter of a century as its legislative correspondent at the State capital with diligence, intelligence and fidelity. His knowledge of State affairs was encyclopedic; his acquaintance among legislators and administrators was so wide that it may fairly be said he knew everybody who has contributed for good or for evil to the management of the State's business in the period of his engagement with THE SUN. His information and experience enabled him to write with authority on the problems of State politics, State administration and State finance. He possessed a sure instinct for the essential, and his articles were characterized by an absence of unnecessary detail which gave them a peculiar value. Mr. McEntee's highly developed news instinct was rendered supremely effective by his common sense and judicial attitude toward the facts with which he dealt, and he was the confident of men in and out of office who relied upon his judgment, sought his advice and respected his secrets in him with unquestioning confidence.

A great many of them are foundlings that have been fished out of the East River or found in ash barrels, where their parents put them.

They have been in the hospital for years and years. Day after day they lie in their cribs or limp about in strange, ill-fitting clothes pinned up against the wall with safety pins, hardly speaking and never smiling.

They are normally without toys or playthings of any kind. One little clubbed boy had a black button, and this was the world's only toy.

These children are absolutely transported when they are given picture books and games are given them. The glared look leaves their eyes, they sing, they shout from bed to bed. It is heartbreaking to see their joy.

Are there not people who would be willing to collect their children in the streets, to take them to the hospital, to give them food, to give them clothing, to give them toys, to give them playthings, to give them a home, to give them a mother, to give them a father, to give them a family, to give them a life?

They are starving for playthings, and when they get them they never lay them down for one night, and they cling to them with a desperate grip.

Please collect every discarded toy you can find, and send them to me, to be given to these most pitiful children.

Miss BULL.

146 East Thirty-third street.  
New York, January 27.

**WHAT GENERAL WOOD DID.**

An Admirer Sets Forth His Services to the Nation.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: These frequent mentions of General Leonard Wood as the right man for President of the United States and many very excellent reasons are given in support.

I should like to add two other reasons for such a choice, and they have long been in my mind; one is the fact that, as we are a nation, we are entitled to a large body of trained and experienced men, and in spite of Washington produced the officers; our drafted men would otherwise have been lost.

The great task undertaken and performed by General Wood in the face of many discouragements, saved us, but brought upon himself the political and wicked hostility of the pack in control at Washington. The humiliation to which the General was subjected is a matter of record and a lasting shame; and it appeals strongly to the American sense of fair play and arouses a strong desire to make up to General Wood, for such a sacrifice, the highest possible honor.

CHARLES B. HOBBS.

New York, January 27.

**Arms for Royal Russians.**

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: Since President Wilson, apparently, is unwilling to let us stand against substantial armed intervention in Russia, and yet seems convinced that the Bolshevik menace should be snuffed out by any means short of this, to what better use could our vast surplus stores of military equipment be applied than to the outfitting of the half-starved, ill-armed Royal Russian troops whose military organization is rendered virtually impossible through lack of these stores of war?

O. M. BROWN.

MEADVILLE, Pa., January 27.

**Adding a Few More Flocks.**

Kicker—What can we do with all the barked wire?

Barker—Wouldn't it be appropriate for the government telegraph?

**Trials of Demobilization.**

The Red Cross Dog—I suppose I'll come home to a dog taking my place.

**The Passing of John Barrymore.**

We shall be potentless. As the late stipendiary, Each man manipulates. Still.

So though aridly. Come with avidity. Sans all humidity. Still.

Roar and Rire. New York, January 27.

**THE BOLSHEVIKI.**

Thoughts Suggested by the Allies' Invitation to the Russians.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: Suppose a man had starved your grandfather and grandmother to death; and tortured your wife and sister; and cut the throats of your children; and robbed you of every cent you had in the world—

And then a syndicate of world fiends should invite you to take breakfast with that man for the purpose of talking things over—

What would you do?

Has it remained for Sergius Sazonoff, even though a Russian, to teach men whose skins are white the rudiments of that self-respect which is the foundation of civilization? B. PATRICK.

**START BUILDING AGAIN.**

One Way to Provide Work for Returned Soldiers and Sailors.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: In connection with employment for our returning soldiers and sailors the following recently appeared in one of the editorial columns of THE SUN:

For another thing, there is a job, generally speaking, waiting for every able bodied soldier who has a job before he went into his country's service. The mill or the factory, the trading house or the bank, the printing plant or whatever it may be, is glad enough and proud enough to take care of its returned soldiers—provided the mill, the factory or whatever it may be, can itself keep on doing business.

How about the carpenters, painters, masons, plumbers, electricians, plasterers, iron and metal workers, roofers, and so on? What about the electricians, the architects, engineers, construction foremen, elevator men, pipe fitters, draughtsmen, engineers, inspectors and surveyors? How can positions be found for the vast number of artisans in work connected with the various branches of the building industry when there is so little construction work going on?

Private construction of buildings has practically come to a standstill. War time construction is over. Construction of public buildings for this purpose would be slow to start, wasteful and in most cases unnecessary. Road building and public works would not fill the gap.

Building activity cannot be revived until investment capital is supplied to the market. No building loans will be made until investors are found to take assignments of the permanent mortgages upon completed buildings. There is no likelihood of an adequate investment demand existing until our Liberty loans are over and our Liberty bonds are digested. By opening up the building industries throughout the country speedy employment can be given this large class of returned soldiers.

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**FARMERS INEFFICIENT?**

Quite the Contrary, and the Cause of High Prices Lies Elsewhere.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: There have been innumerable investigations to ascertain the reason for the high price of milk. Recently a letter appeared in THE SUN attributing the cause to the "inefficiency of the farmer." Having been born and reared on a farm I cannot refrain from taking up the cudgel in the farmer's behalf.

Doubtless there are still many inefficient farmers, just as there are inefficient grocers and butchers, but as a class the farmers never were, and are not, so well educated as the American farmers of to-day—and yet the prices of farm produce never were so high. Hence the inefficiency of the farmer cannot be the main factor.

There is one reason which has looked in vain to see, which never seems to have impressed any one, but which has a very important bearing on the problem, and that is the high price of stock feed.

Two years ago the suburbanite, the villager and the small farmer all over the country kept a cow, a few pigs and some chickens. He supplied not only his own table with butter, eggs, milk, and frequently meat and lard, but often he kept several of these products supplied for the poor man who kept a few chickens. They "eat their heads off" in a few months. Bran and shorts are sold by the pound.

Shortly after the combine hundreds of farmers sold their cows and hogs and sent the very best of them to the city. After the war brought up the prices of meat did they resume hog and cattle raising.

Only a few weeks ago a man with a large modern dairy near New York city sold his cattle and went into the city because, even with the present high prices of milk, he could not keep going and pay the present exorbitant prices for stock feed. JESSIE F. SPANGLER.

**INCURABLE AND TOYLESS.**

An Appeal in Behalf of Neglected Children on Blackwell's Island.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: May I tell the readers of THE SUN of the very sad conditions I have discovered in one of the city hospitals for children on Blackwell's Island, where I was sent as nurse's aid by the Red Cross?

The children are incurable—paralyzed or dumb or tubercular or suffering from other more terrible diseases, and with only one or two exceptions they have been entirely deserted by their families. No one ever goes to see them or plays with them or brings them presents.

A great many of them are foundlings that have been fished out of the East River or found in ash barrels, where their parents put them.

They have been in the hospital for years and years. Day after day they lie in their cribs or limp about in strange, ill-fitting clothes pinned up against the wall with safety pins, hardly speaking and never smiling.

They are normally without toys or playthings of any kind. One little clubbed boy had a black button, and this was the world's only toy.

These children are absolutely transported when they are given picture books and games are given them. The glared look leaves their eyes, they sing, they shout from bed to bed. It is heartbreaking to see their joy.

Are there not people who would be willing to collect their children in the streets, to take them to the hospital, to give them food, to give them clothing, to give them toys, to give them playthings, to give them a home, to give them a mother, to give them a father, to give them a family, to give them a life?

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